GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:434
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2015
e-Commerce
Nayak Shri B.V.

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the increase in e-commerce business in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether apprehensions have been raised that the increasing e-commerce business will bring down the sales of small shopkeepers and retail traders;

(c) if so, whether the Government is considering to implement any policy regarding investment in e-commerce business in order to safeguard the interests of consumers and the retailers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER FOR
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a) : Yes Madam. At present, no official data on the sector is available.

(b) : The confederation of All India Traders (CAIT), and apex body of trade federation, associations and small scale sector of India had represented against alleged business practice of e-commerce companies like predatory pricing, avoidance of tax liabilities, dubious funding structure etc.

(c) & (d) : There is no such proposal under consideration for a separate policy on e-commerce. However, in order to safeguard the interest of the consumers sufficient provisions has been made in the Consumer Protection Bill, 2015, which has been introduced in the Lok Sabha on 10.8.2015.
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